

HARRISBURG AREA TIMEX SINCLAIR USERS GROUP NEWSLETTER MAY 1989

It has been a while since the last newsletter. So I will first report our activities of the last two months.

Our March meeting was cancelled. Most of the usual attending members had other activities that night including myself.

Ed Kapp, Keith Kapp and myself attended a Computer/Hamfest at Dover, PA in March. We talked to a lot of people and gave out information on HATS, CATS and the upcoming CATS Capital Fest. We ran out of information sheets on the Capital Fest.

Our April meeting was held on the 14th. Attending were Ed Kapp, Lee Gayman and myself. I had my QL and my Z88 at this meeting. Ed Kapp brought in an Amstrad PPC 512 portable computer which he just bought. Ed uses IBMs at work. He needed some method of bringing work home. His QL was unexpanded. The cost of adding memory, disk drives and the IBM emulator was just too high. He considered the Z88 but the deal on the Amstrad was just too good to pass up.

We attended another Computer and Hamfest at Lebanon, PA on April 16th. This one was not nearly as successful as the Dover Hamfest. We did not talk to nearly as many people and only gave out four information sheets on the Capital Fest. I had my QL and Z88 and the Kapps had their QL and their Amstrad. The area we were in was very dark and it was difficult using either portable computer. Both machines have non-backlit supertwist LCD screens.

Of course coming up on May 5th, 6th and 7th is the Capital Fest. This is said to be one of the best if not The Best Sinclair Fest to date. And it is also the closest one for us to date. This Fest is also special as most of us are also CATS members. Lee Gayman, Ed and Keith Kapp and myself will be going to D.C.

Our May meeting will be held the following Friday on May 12th. We should have some tales to tell about the Fest.

I wanted to go to a bi-monthly newsletter with about twice as many pages. But that is not going to work. I just do not have enough material. I think that just having a couple pages in a bi-monthly would not be fair to the Users. So I think I will go back to the original format with monthly issues of two to eight pages depending on amount of material. I can also be more current on news items.

I attended a couple VAX training courses at the Digital Equipment Corp. training center in New Carrollton, MD. This is only about a mile from the fest location at the Howard Johnson's. Digital gave us a map showing area restaurants. A copy is on the back page.

Also included here is another one of Joan Kealy's famous 2068 music programs. The tape copy loaded into my 2068 right away with the music playing upon loading.

A member from Allentown, PA, Mark Swartz sent in information on a banner design program he has written for a 64k TS1000 and 2040 printer. The program is written using F.J.G. Beniest ZX81 Extended Basic Level II. If you want additional information, contact me and I can put you in touch with Mark.

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

1989 CapitolFest May 5th, 6th and 7th. at the Washington DC, Howard Johnson Plaza. New Carrollton, MD. Sponsored by CATS.

N E X T M E E T I N G

Friday May 12th
Camp Hill Mall Community Room
From 6:30 To 9:30 PM.

David Bennett 329 Rear Walton St.
Lemoyne, PA 17043 717-774-7531

Z88 Notes ...

The Z88 has still been getting quite a bit of press coverage lately. There was a very positive review on page 75 of the March COMPUTE! magazine.

The Z88 was mentioned in the June PC LAPTOP in an article called 'Laptops to Go.' The authors did mention a few negative points about the Z88. I think that some of the problems they mentioned could have been solved with a few minutes reading the manual.

There was a review of the Mitsubishi MP286L laptop in the May Computer Shopper written by Stan Veit. Stan is the editor-in-chief of Computer Shopper. The Z88 was mentioned twice in this review. "Even models of powerful laptops that are equipped with batteries, operate under portable power less than two hours. Contrast this with my Z88 laptop which runs for weeks on four AA cells!" (My Z88 has run for months on Duracells by mostly using an AC adapter. - .ed.) Here is the second quote. "I use my Z88 when I am traveling light and taking notes for articles because it weighs two pounds. If I were a traveling accountant, or had need for serious software on a trip, I couldn't ask for a better companion than this (Mitsubishi MP286L) powerhouse."

There was a nice picture of the Z88 on page 172 of the April Playboy. This was probably the best picture I have seen of the Z88 to date!

There is a Z88 Support BBS online with a huge amount of downloads and a large message base. (213) 370-2754. 300, 1200, 2400 baud 8 bits, no parity and one stop bit.

Z868/Spectrum Notes ...

There is a new Spectrum clone available from Miles Gordon Technology in England. The following was mostly taken from 'BITS & PIECES..... in ZX-Appeal - The Newsletter of the Vancouver Sinclair Users Group. It was taken from the "Sinclair Scene" section of the British Computer Shopper. I have paraphrased the article to save space and typing. - Dave. A member of our group also showed me some articles in some British magazines about the SAM.

The new computer is called the SAM. It has some impressive specifications: 256K of RAM, expandable to 512K, 64 colors, 85 column text or 512 X 192 dot graphics, and optional 780K 3.5" disk drives. From our tests it seems that SAM is actually MORE compatible with established Spectrum programs and add-ons than Amstrad's 'genuine' Spectrum Plus Three. The SAM processor is a Z80B running at 6MHz - 70 per cent faster than the Spectrum's 3.5 MHz Z80A. The new (price) prediction is \$199 for the disk version and around \$140 for the cassette version. The BASIC interpreter is derived from the Spectrum Product BetaBASIC. SAM runs existing Spectrum BASIC programs and the best features of ZX BASIC remain. SAM has a palette of 64 display colours, like IBM's EGA colour display. It supports four graphics modes compared to the Spectrum's one. SAM has flexible memory paging in 16K chunks. You can divide RAM into several sections, each of which looks like a separate computer. The SA-1099 sound chip has six stereo channels with volume, envelope and pitch control in steps of 256 tones per octave. There is a stereo socket for 'Walkman' headphones at the side of the computer. The other sockets include a joystick, mouse, trackball, TV, RGB monitor, MIDI musical instruments, cassette recorder, Centronics printer and light pen. There's even a pair of 'net-work' sockets which let up to 64 computers share peripherals via a two-wire local link. It is compatible with the QL but in practice the two are not very happy together. There is also an expansion socket similar to the Spectrum edge connector but with a proper plug. SAMs should be hitting the market in May. We'll keep you posted.

Here is another 2868 music
program by Joan Kealy,
MOONBEAMS

```

10 BORDER 5: PAPER 1: INK 5: C
LS
15 PRINT AT 5,7;"M O O N B E A
M S";AT 10,3;"(C L A I R D E
L U N E)";AT 13,7;"based on melo
dy";AT 15,7;"by Claude DeBussy"
20 GO SUB 1000: GO SUB 1035: B
EEP .5,14: BEEP 1.75,11
25 GO SUB 1135: BEEP .25,9: BE
EP .25,11: BEEP 1,9: GO SUB 1035
: BEEP .25,7: BEEP .25,9: BEEP .
25,7: BEEP .5,11
30 GO SUB 1055: BEEP .5,7: GO
SUB 1020: BEEP .25,6: BEEP .25,7
: BEEP 1,6: GO SUB 1998: GO SUB
1000: GO SUB 1055
35 BEEP .25,4: BEEP .25,6: BEE
P .25,4: BEEP .5,9: GO SUB 1020:
BEEP 1,4: BEEP .25,2: BEEP .25,
4: BEEP 1,2: GO SUB 1998: GO SUB
1000: GO SUB 1055
40 BEEP .25,0: BEEP .25,2: BEE
P .25,0: BEEP .5,7: BEEP .5,0: G
O SUB 1110
45 BEEP 1.5,-1: GO SUB 1998: G
O SUB 1000: GO SUB 1035
50 BEEP .5,14: GO SUB 1015
55 BEEP 1.75,11: BEEP .25,9: B
EEP .25,11: BEEP 1,9: GO SUB 103
5: BEEP .25,7: BEEP .25,9: BEEP
.25,7: BEEP .5,14: GO SUB 1015
60 BEEP 1,11: BEEP .25,9: BEEP
.25,11: BEEP 1,9: GO SUB 1998:
GO SUB 1000: GO SUB 1035
65 BEEP .25,7: BEEP .25,9: BEE
P .5,7: BEEP .5,16: GO SUB 1060:
70 BEEP 1,11: BEEP .25,9: BEEP
.25,11: BEEP .5,9: BEEP .25,7:
BEEP .25,4
75 GO SUB 1060: BEEP .5,11: BE
EP .25,9: BEEP .25,11: BEEP .5,9
: BEEP .25,7: BEEP .25,4: GO SUB
1055
80 FOR B=1 TO 19: READ D,P: BE
EP D,P: NEXT B: DATA 1.5,11,.25,
12,.25,11,.5,9,.25,7,.25,9,.25,6
,.25,7,1,4,.5,4,1.5,11,.25,12,.2
5,11,.5,9,.25,7,.25,9,.25,6,.25,
7,1,7
85 GO SUB 1020: BEEP .5,6: GO
SUB 1035: BEEP .5,14: GO SUB 113
5: BEEP 1.75,11: BEEP .25,9: BEE
P .25,11: BEEP 1,9: GO SUB 1998
90 GO SUB 1000: GO SUB 1035
95 BEEP .25,7: BEEP .25,9: BEE
P .5,14: GO SUB 1015: BEEP 1,11:
BEEP .25,9: BEEP .25,11: BEEP 1
,9: GO SUB 1998: GO SUB 1000
100 GO SUB 1035: BEEP .25,7: BE
EP .25,9: BEEP .5,16: BEEP .5,9:
GO SUB 1998: GO SUB 1000
105 GO SUB 1060: BEEP .25,9: BE
EP .25,11: BEEP .5,9: BEEP .5,4:
GO SUB 1998: GO SUB 1000: GO SU
B 1055

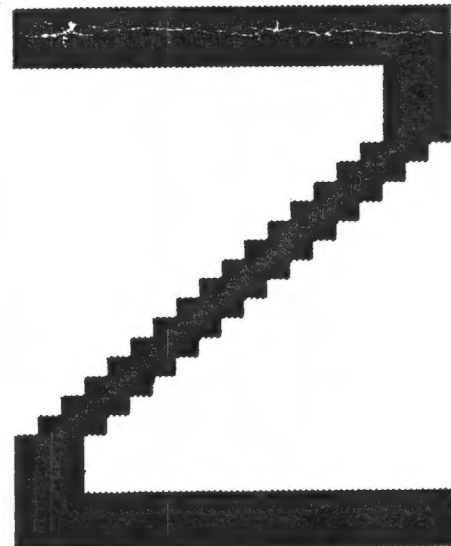
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110 BEEP .25,9: BEEP .25,11: BE
EP .5,9: GO SUB 1020: BEEP .5,4:
GO SUB 1035: BEEP 2.5,7
900 GO SUB 1999: STOP
1000 SOUND 7,56;8,15;9,15;10,15;
11,255;12,255;13,13: RETURN : RE
M ON
1015 SOUND 0,209;1,0;2,165;3,0;4
,139;5,0: RETURN : REM C MAJ
1020 SOUND 0,186;1,0;2,147;3,0;4
,124;5,0: RETURN : REM D MAJ
1035 SOUND 0,139;1,0;2,110;3,0;4
,93;5,0: RETURN : REM G MAJ
1055 SOUND 0,248;1,0;2,209;3,0;4
,165;5,0: RETURN : REM A MIN
1060 SOUND 0,165;1,0;2,139;3,0;4
,110;5,0: RETURN : REM E MIN
1110 SOUND 0,221;1,0;2,186;3,0;4
,147;5,0: RETURN : REM B MIN
1135 SOUND 0,209;1,0;2,175;3,0;4
,147;5,0: RETURN : REM C DIM
1998 SOUND 7,63;8,0;9,0;10,0: FO
R T=1 TO 90: NEXT T: RETURN : RE
M 8TH REST
1999 SOUND 7,63;8,0;9,0;10,0: RE
TURN : REM OFF
9998 SAVE "MOONBEAMS" LINE 1

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Here is a sample of the
output from Mark Swartz's
banner program for the TS1000.



Newcastle

Sizler

Stackbox


At 450


Riverdate Road

Rustlers
5th AK

(CATS)
Howard
Johnson
↓
CAPITAL
FIRST
New Carleton
Mill

EX 30

 Denny's



**Boyer's
Charters**

**Kathryn
Leah
Chloe**

□
Roy
Rogers

195	NORTH BOUND
195	SOUTH BOUND

Re
Lob
Mc

MAY 5th, 6th & 7th

**at the Washington DC, Howard Johnson Plaza
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Make your spring plans now!!

[illegible]

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